## **TELECOMMUNICATIONS/Violent & Aggressive Programming**

SUBJECT: Telecommunications Competition and Deregulation Act of 1995 . . . S. 652. Simon/Dole amendment No. 1349.

## **ACTION: AMENDMENT AGREED TO, 100-0**

**SYNOPSIS:** As reported, S. 652, the Telecommunications Competition and Deregulation Act of 1995, will amend telecommunications laws and reduce regulations in order to promote competition in the telecommunications industry by eliminating barriers that prevent telephone companies, cable companies, and broadcasters from entering one another's markets. It will also permit electric utilities to enter the cable and telephone markets. Judicial control of telecommunications policy, including the "Modified Final Judgment" regime, will be terminated.

The Simon/Dole amendment would express the sense of the Senate that "the entertainment industry should do everything possible to limit the amount of violent and aggressive programming, particularly during the hours when children are most likely to be watching."

## Those favoring the amendment contended:

Children are undeniably harmed by the obscene levels of violent programming to which they are subjected by the entertainment industry. The entertainment industry should do everything possible to limit this harm by limiting children's access to violent programming. The Simon amendment puts the Senate on record as supporting this principle, so we are pleased to vote for its adoption.

## While favoring the amendment, some Senators expressed the following reservations:

The Simon/Dole amendment would not guarantee anything. Broadcasters could still produce whatever they want, and children

(See other side)

YEAS (100)				NAYS (0)		NOT VOTING (0)	
<b>Republican</b> (54 or 100%)		Democrats (46 or 100%)		Republicans (0 or 0%)	Democrats (0 or 0%)	Republicans	Democrats (0)
						(0)	
Abraham Ashcroft Bennett Bond Brown Burns Campbell Chafee Coats Cochran Cohen Coverdell Craig D'Amato DeWine Dole Domenici Faircloth Frist Gorton Gramm Gramm Grams Grassley Gregg Hatch Hatfield Helms	Hutchison Inhofe Jeffords Kassebaum Kempthorne Kyl Lott Lugar Mack McCain McConnell Murkowski Nickles Packwood Pressler Roth Santorum Shelby Simpson Smith Snowe Specter Stevens Thomas Thompson Thurmond Warner	Akaka Baucus Biden Bingaman Boxer Bradley Breaux Bryan Bumpers Byrd Conrad Daschle Dodd Dorgan Exon Feingold Feinstein Ford Glenn Graham Harkin Heflin Hollings	Inouye Johnston Kennedy Kerrey Kerry Kohl Lautenberg Leahy Levin Lieberman Mikulski Moseley-Braun Moynihan Murray Nunn Pell Pryor Reid Robb Rockefeller Sarbanes Simon Wellstone			EXPLANAT 1—Official 1 2—Necessar 3—Illness 4—Other  SYMBOLS: AY—Annou AN—Annou PY—Paired PN—Paired	nily Absent unced Yea unced Nay Yea

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could watch it when their parents were not around. No rating system would be established, and no system would be established which would make it possible for parents to block objectionable programming. The amendment makes a fine statement, but the Senate has already agreed to the substantive amendment (see vote No. 256).

No arguments were expressed in opposition to the amendment.